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SUBJECT: POPE BENEDICT XVI SENDS HIS CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT  
BARACK OBAMA

[1](#)1. Vatican City Secretary of State, His Eminence Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone, requested the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See to transmit the following message from Pope Benedict XVI to President Obama.

Start Quote:

The Honorable Barack Obama

President-elect of the United States of America

On the historic occasion of your election as President of the United States of America, I send warm greetings and cordial best wishes to you, your wife and your family. I pray that Almighty God will assist you in your high responsibilities in the service of the nation and within the international community. May the Lord's abundant blessings sustain you and the beloved American people as you strive, together with all men and women of good will, to build a world of peace, solidarity and justice.

Benedictus PP.XVI

End Quote

[1](#)2. Cardinal Bertone also expressed his own heartfelt congratulations and prayers as President Obama prepares to serve the people of the United States.

GLENDON